

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEA'S EXCESSIVE FINES

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, just before adjournment last year, Congress passed the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Conference Report directing the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to "exercise appropriate discretion" and "not impose unreasonable monetary penalties for minor, unintentional violations" of record keeping requirements.

Unfortunately, in January of this year, the DEA either failed to take that directive seriously, or they have a serious problem interpreting the definition of the words "appropriate discretion", "unreasonable penalties", and "minor, unintentional violations." In Wichita Falls, Texas, twenty-five pharmacies received letters from the DEA asking them to pay fines up to \$400,000 for record keeping mistakes that were not even their fault.

Mr. Speaker, it appears we may have another federal agency out of control. I only hope we don't have another IRS-type fiasco on our hands. At the very least, we have a flawed statute if it allows any federal agency to fine a business \$25,000 per paperwork mistake. If the shoe was on the other foot, and taxpayers were able to deduct a sum of that size from their taxes for unintentional errors generated by bureaucrats in federal agencies, the government would be dead broke.

Mr. Speaker, we should not take lightly or tolerate a federal agency's disregard or neglect of a very clear directive by the Congress. I plan to pursue this matter further and will solicit the support of my colleagues to come up with an appropriate solution.

TRIBUTE TO THE LOYOLA KNIGHTS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Loyola School Basketball team, the Knights, on their 1998 Independent School Athletic League championship win. This triumph is an important milestone in the school's history: the team's first championship in 18 years.

The young men on this basketball team have an outstanding record: 12-0 undefeated in the League, a 21-6 overall record and an impressive 17 game winning streak.

I must also pay tribute to the values instilled in these young athletes by the Loyola School itself. The exceptional teamwork and athleticism demonstrated by the Loyola Knights is merely an extension of the spirit of the Loyola School.

The Loyola School, the only co-educational Jesuit high school in the tri-state area, was

founded in 1900. Its mission is to challenge its young men and women to become intellectually fulfilled, open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice.

As a college preparatory school, Loyola is dedicated to challenging its students academically. The school places emphasis on personal study, reflection and leadership to help students expand their knowledge, to develop their skills, to grown as individuals and as members of a community.

The Loyola Knight's successes this year on the basketball court are a testament to the success of the Loyola School's efforts to develop the diverse and unique talents of each student.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Loyola School Knights. These young men have worked very hard towards their goal. I am proud to have the Loyola School and its outstanding student body in my district.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK MONGES AND THE LEGION OF VALOR MUSEUM

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chuck Monges and the Legion of Valor Museum. Chuck Monges, a World War II war veteran, founded the Legion of Valor Museum in 1991. Chuck Monges has committed himself to the museum and is very deserving of this recognition.

The Legion of Valor is an association of those whose valor has been recognized by award of our nation's two highest decorations. These high medals of decoration are the Medal of Honor of the Navy, Army or Air Force; and the Army Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross.

Organized on April 23, 1890, The Legion of Valor is the nation's senior organization of veterans. It was chartered by public law 224, an act of Congress, and approved by the president on August 4, 1955. The principles of the Legion of Valor are patriotic allegiance to the United States of America, fidelity to its constitution and laws, the security of civil liberties, and the perpetuation of free institutions.

The museum was the dream of Chuck Monges, a retired Major of the United States Army. Major Monges was a recipient of the Navy Cross while serving as a U.S. Marine at the Battle of Saipan during World War II. Major Monges started his project in 1991 with his wife, Anita, working at his side. Major Monges received permission from the City Council of the City of Fresno to rehabilitate an abandoned storeroom of the theater in the Fresno Memorial Auditorium. What started as an impossible pile of junk has developed into the most unique and inspiring military museum in the United States.

The museum staff currently consists of 25 volunteer docents. There is no paid staff. The

10,000 square feet of space is filled with uniforms, equipment, weapons and memorabilia representing all wars from the Civil War through Desert Storm. Included are numerous fighting plane and fighting ship models. All items on display have been donated to the museum.

The museum lobby contains large replicas of the Medals of Honor, Service Crosses, Silver Star, and Bronze and Purple Heart with the names of Fresno County recipients on brass plaques under the medals. In front of the building are flagpoles with the flags of the armed Services and Veterans Organizations.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Chuck Monges and The Legion of Valor Museum. It is the leadership and dedication exhibited by Chuck Monges that should serve as a model for service men and women the world over. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Chuck Monges and the Legion of Valor many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF CHAUNCEY A. ALEXANDER, ACSW, CAE, CSWM

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional man for his contribution to society. Chauncey Alexander continues his life-style of professional and community service following his second retirement after 12 years as half-time instructor for Social Policy and Management courses, Department of Social Work, California State University Long Beach. He first retired in 1982 after 13 years as National Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers.

Founder of the Orange County Health Care Council, now a 100 organization coalition, he continues as an active Executive Committee member. As President of the non-profit First Amendment Foundation, he heads a Board of Directors of nationally prominent civil liberties leaders, and is an active leader in the Democratic Party.

As a WWII veteran, Alexander's career includes: Associate Director for Health Planning, Regional Medical Programs, UCLA School of Medicine (2 years); Executive Director, Los Angeles County Heart Association (13 years); Southern California Society for Mental Hygiene (4 years); Los Angeles Veterans Service Centers (3 years); and many years as a psychiatric social worker, community organizer and educator.

Author of more than 80 professional publications and numerous studies, reports and special articles, Alexander has given leadership to the unification of the social work profession, practice analysis, and political and community organization to improve health and social services. He is the recipient of numerous individual awards for volunteer contributions to community, health and social services.

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